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The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding Budget Cuts
December 4, 2013
SB46-13/14

Authored by: Erik Lillquist, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by: Chase Ellinger, Student at Large

Whereas, a shortfall in projected enrollment for the 2013-2014 school year has resulted in a budget deficit of \$6.2 million for The University of Montana (UM);

Whereas, because of this \$6.2 million shortfall for fiscal year 2014, \$3.1 million will be cut from the Spring 2014 budget;

Whereas, some of these cuts will likely come from student instruction;

Whereas, a strong and dynamic faculty and robust curriculum are necessary for the continued success of UM;

Whereas, on November 13, 2013 certain faculty held a forum at which they demanded cuts be made to “administrative pork” and pay, and a freeze on new administrative hires be implemented;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) fully supports free speech and open dialogue but believes that hurtful and damaging statements degrade the campus environment at UM:

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that ASUM believes that upset faculty members should attempt to work constructively with UM students and administration;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that ASUM believes that administrative budgets should be cut in greater proportion to their overall size in comparison to cuts to instruction;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that ASUM encourages public substantiation of claims regarding the impacts of budget shortfalls on class offerings;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the following: Royce Engstrom, President of UM; Mike Reid, VP of Budget and Finance; Mehrdad Kia, Professor of History; and Perry Brown, Provost;

Passed by Committee: December 2, 2013

Passed by ASUM Senate: December 4, 2013

Jan Roddy,
Relations and Affairs Chair

Mariah Williams,
Chair of the Senate